

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Have mercy on me, O Lord,
for I cry to you all the day long.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.

Cf. Ps 85:3,5

THE COLLECT

God of might, giver of every good gift,
put into our hearts the love of your name,
so that, by deepening our sense of reverence,
you may nurture in us what is good
and, by your watchful care,
keep safe what you have nurtured.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy 4:1-2.6-8

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 14:2-5. R.v1

R) The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart. **(R)**

He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the goddess in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord. **(R)**

He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever. **(R)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St James 1:17-18.21-22.27

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! James 1:18
By his own choice the Father made us his children
by the message of the truth,
so that we should be a sort of first-fruits
of all that he created.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mark 7:1-8.14-15.21-23

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.
Glory to you, O Lord.

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service,
while their hearts are far from me.
The worship they offer me is worthless,
the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this sacred offering, O Lord,
confer on us always the blessing of salvation,
that what it celebrates in mystery
it may accomplish in power.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Mt 5:9-10

**Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called children of God.
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of
righteousness,
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table,
we beseech you, Lord,
that, being the food of charity,
it may confirm our hearts
and stir us to serve you in our neighbour.
Through Christ our Lord.

Our Faith on Sunday

GOSPEL REFLECTION



The Pharisees and the scribes are those who get the harshest treatment from Jesus, yet they were the strictest followers and interpreters of the Law. But it is their rigid adherence to the Law that Jesus finds abhorrent. They had built a whole

catalogue of religious practices and traditions which had little to do with loving God or neighbour. For Jesus, hypocrisy is detestable, especially when the perpetrators are the religious leaders. He says that their worship is worthless and that *"the doctrines they teach are only human regulations"*. What Jesus looks at is the heart, which should be the centre of love in every person. When we say about someone *"Her heart is in the right place,"* we mean that despite them having many defects and limitations, they try their best to love others. The problems arise when the heart is not in the right place. Then

the heart can become the generator of all kinds of evil intentions. How do I know if my heart is in the right place? I need to ask myself what motivates me. Do I have the desire to love others or do I use them for my own ends? And if I only use others for my own ends, I need to turn to Jesus and ask him to give me a heart of flesh.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM
(JOY OF THE GOSPEL)BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL
AN ABSENCE OF HUMAN
DIGNITY ON THE BORDERS

42. Digital campaigns of hatred and destruction, for their part, are not – as some would have us believe – a positive form of mutual support, but simply an association of individuals united against a perceived common enemy. "Digital media can also expose people to the risk of addiction, isolation and a gradual loss of contact with concrete reality, blocking the development of authentic interpersonal relationships". They lack the physical gestures, facial expressions, moments of silence, body language and even the smells, the trembling of hands, the blushes and perspiration that speak to us and are a part of human communication. Digital relationships, which do not demand the slow and gradual cultivation of friendships, stable interaction or the building of a consensus that matures over time, have the appearance of sociability. Yet they do not really build community; instead, they tend to disguise and expand the very individualism that finds expression in xenophobia and in contempt for the vulnerable. Digital connectivity is not enough to build bridges. It is not capable of uniting humanity.

The Still Waters of Beauty*
PRAISE GOD EVEN IN SLEEP

God may be said to have ears, just as the heart may be said to have a voice. A person may speak to their inner thoughts and tell them to praise God, saying: 'All my inward parts, bless God's holy name'. These inner parts are your very soul. For the psalmist then says: 'Bless the Lord, my soul, and all that is within me bless his holy name'. Shout these blessings if there is anyone to hear. Keep silent if there is none. But there is always someone who can hear your soul. We began to speak the blessing, and to sing these very words: 'Bless the Lord, my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name'. We sang until we had sung enough, and then we fell silent, but should we therefore have ceased from blessing God in the inmost part of our being? Our voices are heard at various times, but the voice of our souls should not cease.

When you gather in Church to sing a hymn, let your voice sing the praises of God. Then, when you have prayed all you can and left Church, let your soul continue to sing the praises of God. You are at work: let your soul praise God. You are eating a meal: hear what St Paul says: 'Whether you are eating or drinking, do everything to the glory of God'. I might even say, praise God in your soul while you are asleep. Do not let yourself be disturbed by any thought of sin, theft, or conspiracy to defraud. Let innocence be your soul's voice even while you sleep. 'Bless the Lord, my soul, and let all that is within me bless his holy name.'

*Augustine of Hippo Edited by Oliver Davies Published by New City



PARISH COMMUNITIES OF

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ST WILFRID

South Road
Hailsham



The Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No. 252878

WEEKLY SERVICES

Sat	28th		St Wilfrid's	
		Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time		
Sun	29th	9.00am	St George's -	Joan Lodrick RIP
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Parish Communities' Intention
Mon	30th	2.30pm	St George's -	Rosary Group
Tue	31st	10.00am	St George's -	Yolan & Nicholas Cooray's Intention
Wed	1st	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Norman & Angela Wright RIP
Thurs	2nd	10.00am	St George's -	Mrs Eilla O'Donoghue's Intention
Fri	3rd	10.00am	St Wilfrid's -	Holy Souls' Intention
Sat	4th		St Wilfrid's -	
		Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time		
		(Next Sunday, Collection for the Catholic Education Service)		
Sun	5th	9.00am	St George's -	Jenni Duder-Rumsey RIP 4th Anniversary
		10.30am	St Wilfrid's -	Parish Communities' Intention

St George's Church, Masses are on Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10am and Sundays, 9am. Weekly attendance is now possible; please notify Sandra, 07791627368 or sandraforte40@gmail.com if you are returning on Sundays to ensure social distancing can be in place if needed. **St Wilfrid's Church**: Go to our website www.saintsgeorgeandwilfrid.co.uk, click the link "Book a Mass" on the righthand side of the front page, select your Mass and follow the instructions, or contact the office on 841504.

IMPORTANT: Going into hospital? Would like a visit from the Catholic Chaplaincy? Ring 417400, ext. 4145 and leave a message for the Catholic Chaplain. Please also let Fr Rory know.

St Thomas a Becket Nursery School: Tel 01323 725977 **St Thomas a Becket Primary School:** Tel 01323 737221
St Richard's Catholic College, Bexhill: Tel 01424 731070

New to the Parish or would like to get back in touch but not sure how? Please complete the welcome form available in the porch and/or make yourself known to Fr. Rory. *It would be great to get to know you and offer any help.*

USEFUL PARISH INFORMATION

St Wilfrid's Planned Giving Contact (01323) 832577
St George's Planned Giving Contact (01323) 487212
St George's & St Wilfrid's Finance Committee Treasurers Charles Piegrome & Monika Beaver
Chairperson of the Finance Committee Stephen Murray
ALL CORRESPONDENCE FOR THE ABOVE VIA THE PRIEST'S HOUSE PLEASE
Polegate Hall Hire.....Tel: (01323) 504753
Hailsham Hall Hire Tel: (01323) 841504 - Mon, Wed, Fri Morning or email at above address
Prayer LineJean Barham-Wyatt Tel: (01323) 842824

CROSSLINK CHURCHES TOGETHER, HAILSHAM

POLEGATE CHURCHES TOGETHER

Contact: Margaret Piegrome 01323 870990
Contact Care: 07900 823138

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS those who are unwell: Lily May, Edna Andrews, Julliette Lusted, Jennifer Piskac, Margaret Gearing, Joshua Hardy, Peter & Teresa Zurenkas, Anne Holt, Margaret, Lilian Summers, Tom Woodrow-Spencer, Colleen, Chris Neyenhuizen, Letty Booth and Michael Copper.

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER THOSE NAMED IN THE BOOKS IN OUR CHURCHES

Newsletter items: Please send to Jackie at ssgeorge.wilfrid@btinternet.com, tel.841504 or by hand marked NEWSLETTER, to Fr. Rory's House by **9am Wednesday.**
Office Hours Monday 9am-1pm, Wednesday 8.45am-12.45pm & Friday 9am-12.30pm

A message from Margaret and Charles:

A heartfelt "thankyou" to all our friends at St George's Church for a wonderful surprise breakfast party last Sunday. The hall looked beautiful, and the food was delicious, thanks to a number of skilled cooks, bakers and planners, who worked so secretly! We were presented with beautiful gifts and cards, for which we thank you all. You welcomed us warmly when we arrived here 19 years and we have enjoyed warmth, true friendship and love from the whole congregation and Father Rory; leaving you all is hard, and we are moving only to be closer to our family in Newick, which not far away, so we can look forward to seeing you all again, both in church and on more social occasions. We will carry your love and friendship in our hearts. Margaret and Charles.

Deacon John Writes:

Presence" is more important than anything else in the Bible. When people say, "God was present," the Bible chimes, "If God is not present, nothing is worthwhile." This is a story about 'presence'.

In the United States, the American Indian tribes, especially the northern tribes, had the custom of initiating their sons.

Boys would be about eleven years old and what they were to do is their father would take their hand and bring them out into a forest, a deep and dense forest.

And he would have a little opening in the forest and he would sit his son down and he'd give him a shield. And he gave him a sword and he gave him nothing else.

And he said, "Now, you are about to become a man and this is where you're going to defend. With your shield and your sword, you will defend us from all the evil things that live in this forest and all the terrible things that can happen with wild animals overrunning the Indian reservation," and going on and on in this way.

And the little boy would be looking back into his father's face.

And his father would leave him.

And then the little boy would sit down and he'd keep watch.

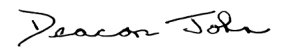
And the minutes passed and the hours passed and the darkness deepened and the howling of wild animals all around him, and he would sit there and he would look.

And then he would get up. And he paced back and forth. And he would be frightened, but he was a man now, he was not allowed to cry for help.

And so he did all night long until finally the sun goes up and his father came back.

And his father took him in his arms — and the little boy was so happy — and he said, "Now, my child, you are now a man. You have stood up to defend your people in the terrible darkness and did not run away."

(To be continued next week when we are told what the father was doing)



St Wilfrid's First Communion Preparation:

St Wilfrid's is now inviting parents to enrol their children in our First Holy Communion Programme for 2021. In our Diocese, the usual age for receiving this Sacrament for the first time is 8 years of age (children in Year 3 or above.) There will be an introductory meeting for parents and children on September 29th at 6.30pm in the church hall, with a view to starting lessons in October.

Please contact Annette Wake 07839571916, annette@awakefamily.plus.com or Teresa Palmer on 07951082592, tpalmer2205@gmail.com before September 22nd to reserve your child's place.

St Wilfrid's Children's Liturgy will commence weekly from 5th September, we are very happy to welcome two new catechists, Angie and Dawn as well as welcoming back Teresa and Annette, we would still love to have help with this rewarding aspect of our parish, as the youth are our future and have a lot to give and to learn. we are also commencing our family masses once a month at the end of the month. The first will be the very popular Harvest Mass.

Harvest Family Mass - is on 26th September at 10.30. Our main projects are for Cafod and the Hailsham Food Bank.

St George's Celebration of Life and Faith – Sunday 26th September 9am Mass, will be a special Mass of remembrance of those we have lost, especially those lost during the Covid-19 pandemic, but it will also be a celebration as our community returns to be together again. We hope as many parishioners as possible will be able to attend. After mass we will all gather in the remembrance garden where Father will bless the recently planted rose bushes in memory of all those whose lives we have celebrated during the service. This will follow with a celebratory breakfast, raffle and tombola.

Don't let the celebrations end there - our children and their families are hoping you will join them to spend the rest of the morning and afternoon enjoying family games, bingo, quiz, and a lunch. More info to follow but please do put the date in the diary and let others know. All are welcome.

Please RSVP – For catering purposes we would benefit from knowing numbers so please RSVP via the list at the back of church or call/text Sandra on 07791 627368.

St George's Remembrance Book - especially for the Celebration of Life and Faith mass, we will have a remembrance book available in Church from Sunday September 5th. If you or someone you know would like to have names added to the book please write them in or email the details to sandraforte40@gmail.com.

St George's Children's Liturgy will resume on Sunday 12th September in the hall during mass. All children primary age are welcome and parent/carers are welcome to stay with younger children if they wish.

Lunch at the Kings Head - Horsebridge, 12noon, Thursday 9th September: Time is moving on till we have to give in our numbers, I must have final numbers by Monday 6th September please, tel: Joan 07873 390944. Thank you. This is a very good opportunity to meet your fellow parishioners socially. The menu at the Kings Head caters more for other dietary requirements, so hopefully more of you will join us.

We are starting back with our over 50's Afternoon Tea, 2pm - 4pm or 5pm: Thursday 30th September and thereafter the last Thursday of every month. Another opportunity to meet your fellow parishioners socially. Our sales table will be up and running from that date, bargains galore. If you have any suitable gifts for a table, please leave them in our church porch, labelled "Sales Table" or contact Joan on 07873 390844. Thank you.
Of course both of the above two events are open to our friends at St George's, as Fr Rory says, "we must get together more".

St Wilfrid's Bereavement Mass last Sunday at 3pm:

How moving it was to be able to hold this important Mass once again. Fr Rory and the Bereavement Team made it a very moving occasion. Gary portraying our lost ones on the screen, was especially poignant, making us realise how many good people we have lost, including his own dear mother of course. Refreshments in our hall meant we could all get together after our Mass thanks to our catering team.

St George's Teas and Coffees after mass – we would like to start this again from Sunday 5th September. We need help to run this weekly, two people are needed each week. If you would like to do this with a friend or be paired with another parishioner please let Sandra know as soon as possible.

St Wilfrid's Church - Notices at Mass on Sunday.

If you need a notice read out after Mass please email or phone Jean by Saturday mornings. jeanbarham21@gmail.com Tel: 842824.

Volunteers are needed at St Wilfrid's: There are forms being handed out after Mass and are available on the table in the church porch, listing the areas where we need your help. Please consider very carefully as to where you can contribute to the successful running of our church and community, Please return to the presbytery.

Joke of the Week:

God is walking around Heaven one day and notices a number of people on the heavenly streets who shouldn't be there. He finds St Peter at the gate and says to him, "Peter, you've been remiss in your duties. You're letting in the wrong sort of people." "Don't blame me, Lord," replies Peter. "I turn them away just like You said to. Then they go around to the back door and Jesus' mother lets them in."

Beginning Experience Weekend: October 8th – 10th, Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex. For those who find themselves single again following divorce, separation or bereavement.

Beginning Experience is a weekend programme to help you move from the darkness of your grief into the light of a new beginning. More details at besouthofengland@gmail.com.

Marriage Anniversaries Mass: Anyone celebrating a wedding anniversary that has particular significance for them is welcome to join the annual celebration of marriage at St Joseph's Church in Guildford. This year the celebration, with Bishop Richard, is on Saturday, October 9th with Mass at 11.30.

In order that we can be Covid compliant we do ask that everyone books their space via our website. Please use the following link [Diocesan Marriage Anniversaries Mass and Reception \(09-Oct-2021\) - ChurchSuite Events](#) or contact the Diocesan Marriage & Family Life Adviser, Katherine Bergin at Katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk (Places are limited to 150). We so look forward to celebrating with you!

CAFOD responding to multiple emergencies across the world

CAFOD is responding to significant crises across the world this week. We are working with local Church organisations in Haiti to deliver emergency aid to people affected by the catastrophic earthquake and tropical storm. In the tragic situation in Afghanistan, we are working to ensure the safety of our local partners and their communities. We are supporting local aid workers to deliver urgent food and water supplies to hundreds of thousands of people facing extreme hunger in Tigray in Ethiopia, South Sudan and north-east Nigeria. You can read more about how we can all express solidarity with our sisters and brothers affected by these emergencies on the CAFOD website: <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news>. Your compassion, generosity and prayers have helped us to stand together and enable us to continue to support communities in these difficult times. Thank you.